

[ ] 27 July 1953

Proposed Special DTLINEN Operation

Itemized Cost Estimate

1. The proposed special DTLINEN operation is a very heavy leaflet drop from balloons on two specific areas occupied by Soviet troops in their grand maneuvers during the first two weeks of October. Roughly, the two areas in question are the Aken-Dessau-Zerbst triangle and the Letzelinger Heide Forest area, both in the western part of the Soviet Zone of Germany.

2. These maneuvers employ large numbers of troops under simulated combat conditions, and it is believed that the inevitable confusion coupled with the more or less forced relaxation of vigilance on the part of Soviet security forces would provide an unusually receptive as well as an unusually large target.

3. Since the maneuvers in the above-named areas are separate in locale and time, the DTLINEN operation would have two phases in every respect similar except for specific location of assembly points and date of initiation.

4. Although DTLINEN has one fixed base (Dannenberg) for launching balloons destined for targets in the areas in question, it was agreed in a conversation between [ ] and [ ] that more effective target coverage could be obtained by assembling the necessary equipment and personnel at the regular base and then actually launching the balloons from several suitable sites along the West Zone-East Zone border from trucks procured in West Germany for the purpose. In the manner the operating crews (2) would be able to take the fullest possible advantage of winds and of geographical proximity to the target areas.

5. The following partial cost estimate is based on a maximum of three days on each target and assuming that the two crews will be able to launch balloons for approximately eight hours in each twenty-four. The entire magnitude and last-minute arrangements of the operation will depend, of course, on prevailing weather conditions and intelligence made available to us on the above-mentioned Soviet maneuvers.

A. Cost estimate for Letzelinger-Heide phase:

1. Personnel required - 4 men from Berlin plus one man already located at Dannenberg.

SECRET  
SECURITY INFORMATION

a. Travel expenses Berlin and return for 4 men	DM 300.00
b. Per diem for 4 men for 5 days @ DM 20.00	400.00
Sub total	DM 700.00

2. Material Requirements:

a. 300 balloons @ DM 10.00 (1 1/2 cent. diameter)	DM 3000.00
b. 300 containers gas @ 20.00	6000.00
c. Sufficient fuses and twine for release mechanisms.	150.00
d. Gasoline and oil for truck	200.00
TOTAL	DM 10,050.00

B. Cost Estimate for Aken-Dessau Phase.

1. Personnel Requirements - Since this phase will probably be launched from the Bad Harzburg and not Darnen-berg, the per diem and expenses must be paid for an additional man, that is an extra cost of about DM 350.00 would be needed.

2. Material Requirements: The same in all respects.

	Extra charge DM 350.00
	Previous total 10,050.00
Total Aken-Dessau Phase	DM 10,400.00

C. Grand Total Estimated Combined Cost of both phases of operation\* DM 20,450.00

\*This estimate has been made with no allowance for the costs involved in employing two trucks and 2 drivers for a probable total of 6 working days. Although at this moment, this item is an unknown quantity, it seems unlikely that this expense could amount to more than DM 1,000.00

Another cost that has not been included in above estimate is that connected with the purchase of printing supplies and/or paper by MKTOPAZ in the event that their stocks are not adequate for the complete job and time will not permit ordering it from headquarters.

6. The above cost estimates were provided by [ ] based on previous experience with such operations on a smaller scale. The quantities of balloons and the leaflet load possible were arrived at in the following manner:

A. Two teams working from 2 trucks with drivers provided.

1. It is estimated that each team will be able to launch 45 balloons in a normal eight hour working period.

SECRET  
SECURITY INFORMATION

SECRET  
SECURITY INFORMATION

-3-

2. This allows for a total of about 270 balloons launched during the three day period of each operation or a grand total of 540 balloons. If time allows and conditions are favorable, 600 balloons could be launched.

B. The leaflet load that can be carried by these balloons is calculated at 20,000 per balloon provided the leaflets are printed on so-called "Bible paper" (German paper grade designation is DIN A-7) measuring 3 by 4 inches.

1. If the usual weight of paper is used, it would only be possible to load 10,000 leaflets per balloon.

2. Assuming the former is used; it would be possible to launch 1,800,000 leaflets per day or 5,400,000 in the three day period on each target. Provided weather and other conditions were favorable for three day periods on both targets the total leaflet total could be about 11,000,000.

7. The worst estimates, then, are based on maximums. If conditions are not propitious, many balloons and much gas will not be used, making them available for future operations.

[ ]

SECRET  
SECURITY INFORMATION